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TITLE : NON-CYAN GOLD ELECTROPLATING BATH

ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a mercaptocarboxylic acid gold plating bath excellent in bath stability as a non-cyan electroplating bath by using acetyl cysteine, which is one kind of the mercaptocarboxylic acid, as a complexing agent.

SOLUTION: This mercaptocarboxylic acid gold plating bath contains one or more kinds of an alkali metal salt or ammonium salt of an acetyl cysteine gold complex, a cysteine gold complex, a mercaptosuccinic acid gold complex, gold chloride and a sulfurous acid gold complex and 1-100 g/l acetyl cysteine as the complexing agent. Though clear limiting point is not present in the suitable quantity of the complexing agent, an object to obtain a bath excellent in the stability with time is not attained if the quantity is too small and on the other hand, the rate of deposition is lowered and the cost of the bath is increased if the quantity is excess. In such a case, as an auxiliary complexing agent, cysteine or mercaptosuccinic acid can be added and as the result, the rate of plating is increased. Further a metal element in addition to gold can be added to increase the hardness of the film or to change the color tone.

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